

## **‘Annihilators’ hit Baghdad’s streets during Operation Iron Promise**

**By Staff Sgt. James Sailer, 122nd MPAD**

BAGHDAD, Iraq -- In what has become almost a nightly ritual, Soldiers from A Troop, 1st Squadron, 5th Cavalry Regiment, lined up their vehicles on a quiet side street in the sleepy town of Abu Ghuraib just before initiating a cordon and search mission March 17.

This time, the “Annihilators” of the 1st Cavalry Division’s 2nd Brigade Combat Team, Task Force 1st Armored Division, were part of the division-wide Operation “Iron Promise.”

Operation Iron Promise is being carried out on the streets of Baghdad to show the Iraqi people that coalition forces are committed to securing the region and are determined to eradicate cell groups that pose a threat to a free Iraq.

The operation consists of targeting known enemy locations and aggressively carrying out cordon and search operations looking for insurgents, former regime sympathizers and foreign fighters.

“We are going to exploit insurgent threats in hopes of gathering more intelligence on people and weapons caches,” Capt. Joseph C. James, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2nd Squadron, 12th Cavalry. “We will be part of a division-wide coordinated and simultaneous sweep.”

More than 3,000 2nd BCT Soldiers took to the Baghdad streets for the nightlong operation.

“We have 88 buildings to cover in our sector,” said Capt David Perry, Annihilators commander. “We will probably get to 50 or 55 of them. Sweeping the buildings is fast, it’s the identification and interviewing of the people that takes so much time.”

Perry, from Eufaula, Ala., said many residents in his sector are reluctant to talk to coalition forces out of fear of retaliation from insurgent forces.

“We hope to change that. Maybe our efforts will help alleviate those fears,” Perry said.

During the sweep of more than 700 houses, seven wanted individuals were found and detained. The suspected insurgents surrendered quietly and there were no injuries to coalition or Iraqi forces.

Not all weapons discovered were confiscated. Residents are allowed to possess one AK-47 or similar rifle and no more than 200 rounds of ammunition are allowed per household for personal protection.

“They need these weapons because the local banks are not too secure so it is quite common for the average Iraqi citizen to keep all of his money in his house. We



**Soldiers from A Troop, 1st Squadron, 5th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, prepare to search a house in the Abu Ghuraib neighborhood during a cordon and search operation carried out during Task Force 1st Armored Division’s Operation Iron Promise March 17.**

routinely run across homes that have several million Dinar socked away,” Perry said. “We don’t confiscate the money unless the person is on our wanted list; we usually just document who has it and where it is.”

As the night progressed, Alpha Troop remained on the lookout for improvised explosive devices or harassment from small arms fire. One IED was discovered along a side route and an Explosive Ordnance Disposal team was called to remove it.

During the operation, civil affairs and psychological operations teams settled disputes between Soldiers and residents. The teams also interviewed civilians, assessed damage, and processed damage claims.

“Damage to property so far has been minimal. We will see in the next few days what else pops up,” said Capt. Paul McBride, 2nd Squadron civil affairs officer.

Soldiers of the 1st Cavalry Division are learning how to operate in Baghdad’s urban environment and mastering new tools in the Soldier’s trade, Perry said.

“It is the leader’s responsibility to realize the changes and adapt to the nature of this fight,” Perry said. “But our Soldiers on the ground will always do the right thing in carrying out our missions.”



# *The Old Ironsides Report* March 26, 2004

## **NEWS...**

### **Clarke Grabs Center Stage at 9/11 Hearing**

WASHINGTON (AP) - For 12 years, he worked quietly in the shadows of the White House. But Richard Clarke stole the spotlight at an extraordinary series of hearings into the Sept. 11 attacks, claiming President Bush hadn't done enough to protect the country from terrorists. A counterterrorism adviser to the past three presidents, Clarke accused the Bush administration Wednesday of scaling back the campaign against Osama bin Laden before the attacks and undermining the fight against terrorism by invading Iraq.

### **Blair Invites Libya to Fight Terrorism**

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) - British Prime Minister Tony Blair met Thursday with Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi and said after the historic talks that the former pariah state could become an important partner in the war on terror. Blair also offered military links to the North African state, saying he would appoint a British general as defense coordinator for Tripoli. Blair would provide no other details.

### **South Africa Will Be Home to Aristide**

BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (AP) - Ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide will take permanent asylum in South Africa but not until it holds general elections next month, Jamaican officials said Thursday. The officials said South African President Thabo Mbeki's government demanded the delay in Aristide's arrival because it could be "politically unsettling" before the election.

### **Economy Grows at Solid 4.1 Percent Pace**

WASHINGTON (AP) - America's economic recovery ended 2003 on a good note, growing at a solid 4.1 percent annual rate, and is expected to do even better in the opening quarter of this year. The latest reading on gross domestic product for the October-to-December quarter was the same as a previous estimate made a month ago, the Commerce Department reported Thursday.

## ***Thought for the day...***

### **Teamwork**

During World War II, Jimmy Durante was doing a tour of veteran's hospitals under the supervision of Ed Sullivan. At one rehabilitation center on Long Island, Sullivan warned his friend, "Look Jimmy, no encores—we have a tight schedule. Our plane leaves at eleven-fifteen sharp." Well, when the time came, there was the great Durante doing an encore. From behind the curtain, Sullivan motioned to him. Durante went over to Sullivan and said, "Look Ed, plane or no plane, I can't leave—look at the pair of Soldiers clapping in the second row." Sullivan looked and seen two one-armed veterans sitting next to each other and using their good arms to clap together.

## ***In other news...***

### **Greece Holds Olympic Flame Lighting**

By PATRICK QUINN, Associated Press Writer  
ANCIENT OLYMPIA, Greece (AP) -- The flame that will burn at the Athens Games was lit Thursday amid the ruins of the ancient sanctuary where the Olympics were born 2,780 years ago.

In a ceremony held at an altar to Hera, a Greek goddess worshipped in Olympia during the original games, the torch was lit by a Greek actress playing the role of a high priestess.

Thalia Prokopiou, one of two dozen women who participated in the ceremony, placed a silver torch inside a burnished-steel concave mirror for the sun's rays to ignite.

"Today the Olympic flame will be reborn yet again to enfold the whole world in its light. This is the day that all of us have been waiting for so eagerly," Gianna Angelopoulos-Daskalaki, president of the Athens organizing committee said.

During the ceremony, Prokopiou intoned a prayer to the ancient Greek god Apollo for the sun to shine.

Earlier, clouds had threatened the lighting as thousands of people gathered in the ancient birthplace of the Olympics to watch the ceremony.

The Olympics were born in Olympia in 776 B.C. and held every four years until the Roman Emperor Theodosius abolished them in the year 393 after Christianity took root and he deemed the games pagan.

They were revived in Athens in 1896 by a group led by a French baron, Pierre de Coubertin.

"The Olympic Games are returning to their country of origin for the second time in the modern era. It was in Olympia that everything began and today that everything is going to begin for Athens 2004," International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge said.

"Whether we live in a rich or disadvantaged country, the flame will unite us all," Rogge said.

Prokopiou's flame lit the torch of Greek javelin champion Costas Gatzidouis, the first bearer in an unprecedented global relay that will carry the flame around the world.

The journey will include its first trips to South America and Africa. The torch will be in the United States from June 16-19, stopping in Los Angeles, St. Louis, Atlanta and New York.

More than 11,000 torchbearers will carry the flame inside Greece and around the world. More than 3,600 will take part in the international portion of its journey, which includes 27 countries and covers a total of about 48,500 miles.

From Ancient Olympia, the flame will make a seven-day trip through southern Greece and will burn outside the marble Panathenian stadium, site of the first modern games, until June 4. It will then travel to Australia.

Thousands of people gathered to watch the ceremony, most walking for miles because of tight security. The flame lighting and torch relay are being used to test some of the security measures that will be enforced during the Aug. 13-29 games.

Greece has budgeted a record more than \$800 million for security and for the first time in the history of the flame lighting spectators were forced to go through metal detectors.

The ceremony was held amid continued international concerns about security and urgent delays facing key construction projects, including work at the main Olympic stadium and classic marathon route. Rogge and Oswald are to discuss the problems during their visit.

Rogge reminded organizers that only 141 days remain before the games begin.

A number of Olympic champions will carry the torch on the Greek part of the relay.



## ***Today in History...***

### **March 26, 1953: SALK ANNOUNCES POLIO VACCINE**

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) -- On March 26, 1953, American medical researcher Dr. Jonas Salk announces on a national radio show that he has successfully tested a vaccine against poliomyelitis, the virus that causes the crippling disease of polio. In 1952--an epidemic year for polio--there were 58,000 new cases reported in the United States, and more than 3,000 died from the disease. For promising eventually to eradicate the disease, which is known as "infant paralysis" because it mainly affects children, Dr. Salk was celebrated as the great doctor-benefactor of his time.

Polio, a disease that has affected humanity throughout recorded history, attacks the nervous system and can cause varying degrees of paralysis. Since the virus is easily transmitted, epidemics were commonplace in the first decades of the 20th century. The first major polio epidemic in the United States occurred in Vermont in the summer of 1894, and by the 20th century thousands were affected every year. In the first decades of the 20th century, treatments were limited to quarantines and the infamous "iron lung," a metal coffin-like contraption that aided respiration.

Although children, and especially infants, were among the worst affected, adults were also often afflicted, including future president Franklin D. Roosevelt, who in 1921 was stricken with polio at the age of 39 and was left partially paralyzed. Roosevelt later transformed his estate in Warm Springs, Georgia, into a recovery retreat for polio victims and was instrumental in raising funds for polio-related research and the treatment of polio patients.

Salk, born in New York City in 1914, first conducted research on viruses in the 1930s when he was a medical student at New York University, and during World War II helped develop flu vaccines. In 1947, he became head of a research laboratory at the University of Pittsburgh and in 1948 was awarded a grant to study the polio virus and develop a possible vaccine. By 1950, he had an early version of his polio vaccine.

Salk's procedure, first attempted unsuccessfully by American Maurice Brodie in the 1930s, was to kill several strains of the virus and then inject the benign viruses into a healthy person's bloodstream. The person's immune system would then create antibodies designed to resist future exposure to poliomyelitis. Salk conducted the first human trials on former polio patients and on himself and his family, and by 1953 was ready to announce his findings. This occurred on the CBS national radio network on the evening of March 25 and two days later in an article published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. Dr. Salk became an immediate celebrity.

In 1954, clinical trials using the Salk vaccine and a placebo began on nearly two million American schoolchildren. In April 1955, it was announced that the vaccine was effective and safe, and a nationwide inoculation campaign began. New polio cases dropped to under 6,000 in 1957, the first year after the vaccine was widely available.

In 1962, an oral vaccine developed by Polish-American researcher Albert Sabin became available, greatly facilitating distribution of the polio vaccine. Today, there are just a handful of polio cases in the United States every year, and most of these are "imported" by Americans from developing nations where polio is still a problem.

Among other honors, Jonas Salk was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977. He died in La Jolla, California, in 1995.

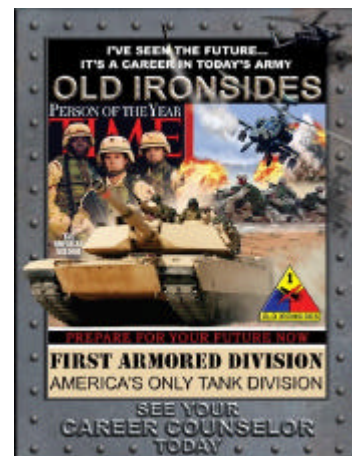
### **RC benefits briefing**

Reserve Component Soldiers are invited to attend a weekly USAR/AGR benefits briefing with Sgt. 1st Class Goodley, USAR from the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division.

The briefing takes place Friday at the Soldier's Support Center on BIAP at 10 a.m.

All Reserve Component soldiers or Active Army Soldiers interested in what the USAR has to offer are invited.

This briefing is a joint effort between the outgoing 1st Armored Division Command Career Counselor, Sgt. Maj. Jaranowski and the incoming 1st Cavalry Division Command Career Counselor, Sgt. Maj. Henry, as a service to all of our forces in theater.





# The Old Ironsides Report

March 26, 2004

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2004				As of: Thursday, March 25, 2004 9:08:11 PM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00		HEADLINE NEWS	NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SPECIALS (TVPG): - INSIDE NFL FILMS: IDOL MAKERS	TODAY		00:00
00:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):			AIR FORCE TV NEWS	00:30
01:00			MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES		LESTER HOLT LIVE	01:00
01:30		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):				01:30
02:00	SPORTSCENTER			SESAME STREET	HEADLINE NEWS	02:00
02:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	02:30
03:00	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - SWEET 16: VANDERBILT VS UCONN	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - SWEET 16: PITTSBURGH VS OKLAHOMA STATE; WAKE FOREST VS ST. JOSEPH'S	ROCKET POWER (TVY): - MAJOR SCRUMMAGE/ SNOW BOUNDERS	LITTLE BILL (TVY7): - ZOOPITY - ZOO/THE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	03:00
03:30			THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS (TVY): - TIM VISIBLE/ THAT OL' BLACK MAGIC	WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):	CBS EVENING NEWS	03:30
04:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - TREE HOUSE OF HORRORS II	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN	04:00
04:30			THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - VANESSA'S RICH			04:30
05:00			CHARMED (TVPG): - OH MY GODDESS (PT. 2)	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):	HANNITY & COLMES	05:00
05:30	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - SWEET 16: ALABAMA VS SYRACUSE					05:30
06:00			BOSTON PUBLIC (TV14): - CHAPTER FOUR	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	THE NEWSHOUR	06:00
06:30				JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):		06:30
07:00			NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SPECIALS (TVPG): - SERENGETI DIARY	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	07:00
07:25				THE VIEW (TVPG):		07:25
07:30					NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	07:30
08:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	WALKING WITH DINOSAURS - GIANT OF THE SKIES		LARRY KING LIVE	08:00
08:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):		08:13
08:30	COLLEGE GAMENIGHT	HEADLINE NEWS	WALKING WITH PREHISTORIC BEASTS (TVG): - NEXT OF KIN			08:30
09:00	ESPNEWS	SESAME STREET	BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER (TV14): - THE GIFT	HOUSE OF MOUSE (TVY): - GONE GOOFY	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	09:00
09:30	TOTALLY NASCAR			ALL GROWN UP (TVY): - IT'S CUPID STUPID		09:30
10:00	SPORTSCENTER	LITTLE BILL (TVY7): - ZOOPITY - ZOO/THE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK	IRON CHEF (TVPG): - TOFU/CHEN VS CHIYO CHO	KIM POSSIBLE (TVY7): - LOW BUDGET	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
10:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		MY LIFE AS A TEENAGE ROBOT (TVY7): - HOSTILE MAKEOVER(AKA: WHEN IT'S TIME TO CHANGE)/GRID IRON GLORY(AKA: TEEN SPIRIT)		10:30
11:00	COLLEGE GAMENIGHT	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	ROCKET POWER (TVY): - MAJOR SCRUMMAGE/ SNOW BOUNDERS	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:30	ESPNEWS		THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS (TVY): - TIM VISIBLE/ THAT OL' BLACK MAGIC	HEADLINE NEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	11:30
11:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):				11:46
11:52				PACIFIC REPORT		11:52
12:00	SPORTSCENTER		THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - TREE HOUSE OF HORRORS II	ESPNEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	12:00
12:30	TOTALLY NASCAR		THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - VANESSA'S RICH	HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:35		THE VIEW (TVPG):				12:35
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00	ESPNEWS		CHARMED (TVPG): - OH MY GODDESS (PT. 2)	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - MARGE VS. SINGLES, SENIORS, CHILDLESS COUPLES	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):				13:17
13:30	SPORTSCENTER			THAT 70'S SHOW (TVPG): - NOBODY'S FAULT BUT MINE		13:30
14:00		HEADLINE NEWS	BOSTON PUBLIC (TV14): - CHAPTER FOUR	SURVIVOR: ALL-STARS (TVPG):	PRIMETIME	14:00
14:30	COLLEGE GAMENIGHT	JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):				14:30
15:00	NHL - DETROIT RED WINGS @ COLORADO AVALANCHE	TODAY	NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SPECIALS (TVPG): - SERENGETI DIARY	24 (TV14): - DAY 2: 7:00 A.M. - 8:00 A.M.	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	15:00
16:00			WALKING WITH DINOSAURS - GIANT OF THE SKIES	HEADLINE NEWS		16:00
16:22				PACIFIC REPORT		16:22
16:30			WALKING WITH PREHISTORIC BEASTS (TVG): - NEXT OF KIN	TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):		16:30
17:00	SPORTSCENTER	HOUSE OF MOUSE (TVY): - GONE GOOFY	BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER (TV14): - THE GIFT		HEADLINE NEWS	17:00
17:30		ALL GROWN UP (TVY): - IT'S CUPID STUPID		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):	CHANNEL ONE	17:30
17:45					ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	17:45
18:00	TOTALLY NASCAR	KIM POSSIBLE (TVY7): - LOW BUDGET	IRON CHEF (TVPG): - TOFU/CHEN VS CHIYO CHO		THE EARLY SHOW	18:00
18:30	SPORTSCENTER	MY LIFE AS A TEENAGE ROBOT (TVY7): - HOSTILE MAKEOVER(AKA: WHEN IT'S TIME TO CHANGE)/GRID IRON GLORY(AKA: TEEN SPIRIT)		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		18:30
19:00		JEOPARDY! (TVG):	ROCKET POWER (TVY): - MAJOR SCRUMMAGE/ SNOW BOUNDERS	LIAR, LIAR		19:00
19:30	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS (TVY): - TIM VISIBLE/ THAT OL' BLACK MAGIC			19:30
20:00	PGA TOUR - THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP: SECOND ROUND	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - TREE HOUSE OF HORRORS II		FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
20:30		HEADLINE NEWS	THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - VANESSA'S RICH	THE LION IN WINTER		20:30
21:00		THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - MARGE VS. SINGLES, SENIORS, CHILDLESS COUPLES	CHARMED (TVPG): - OH MY GODDESS (PT. 2)		PRIMETIME	21:00
21:30		THAT 70'S SHOW (TVPG): - NOBODY'S FAULT BUT MINE				21:30
22:00		SURVIVOR: ALL-STARS (TVPG):	BOSTON PUBLIC (TV14): - CHAPTER FOUR		FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
23:00		24 (TV14): - DAY 2: 7:00 A.M. - 8:00 A.M.	NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SPECIALS (TVPG): - SERENGETI DIARY	TODAY	HEADLINE NEWS	23:00
23:30					INSIDE POLITICS	23:30